

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 349
By Haynes

A RESOLUTION to designate a certain segment of State Route
65 (Whites Creek Pike) in Davidson County as
the "Guy E. Bates, Sr. Highway".

WHEREAS, from time to time, the members of this General Assembly have seen fit to
name certain highways and bridges to honor those exemplary public servants who have worked
assiduously and effectively to improve the quality of life in their respective communities; and

WHEREAS, Guy E. Bates, Sr., a former Metropolitan Nashville Councilman, is most
assuredly one such outstanding citizen who is deserving of this special recognition; and

WHEREAS, Guy Bates graduated with honors from Joelton High School in 1937, and
was voted "Best All-Around Student" by the faculty; and

WHEREAS, firmly believing that character is built through participation in athletic events,
he was a four-year letterman in both basketball and baseball and served as captain for two
years in each sport; and

WHEREAS, in 1936, he played in the Junior World Series for a baseball team
representing Nashville; and

WHEREAS, after graduating from high school, Guy Bates enrolled at the University of
Tennessee at Knoxville and majored in engineering and business; and

WHEREAS, he lettered in baseball while a student at the University of Tennessee; he
later signed a professional contract with the St. Louis Cardinals and played with Stan Musial,
Terry Moore, Dizzy Dean and Erv Dusak; and

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WHEREAS, his promising professional baseball career was ended by a severe foot injury, but he continued to play the sport he loved so dearly and manage teams in Nashville for several years; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bates enjoyed an exemplary career as an engineer in the aircraft industry for over twenty-six years; and

WHEREAS, during his meritorious tenure as an accomplished professional, he was employed as a Quality Control Engineer by the Vultee Aircraft Corporation and the Lockheed Aircraft Corporation; and

WHEREAS, he also worked on many secret and top secret programs for the United States Air Force as a Quality Control Engineer and was instrumental in the design of items for the Space Program as a Quality Control Engineer and Project Engineer; and

WHEREAS, in 1962, Mr. Bates was instrumental in creating the Joelton Water District; he was subsequently successful installing water lines from Bordeaux to Robertson County and Cheatham County, including much of Madison and Goodlettsville as well; and

WHEREAS, he served with acumen and alacrity as President of the Joelton Water District for fifteen years; in 1974, the district became part of Nashville and Davidson County's Metropolitan Government; and

WHEREAS, after taking leave of the aircraft industry, Mr. Bates purchased his father's grocery, which was located in Joelton, in 1965; and

WHEREAS, he was subsequently elected to the Board of Directors of Bi-Rite Foods and served astutely in that capacity for fifteen years; he also served as Chairman of the Board for seven years; and

WHEREAS, in 1995, he sold the family's food store and took a much deserved retirement; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bates' father served the Joelton and Whites Creek areas with distinction as a Davidson County Magistrate for nearly twenty-eight years; naturally, young Guy grew up in

an environment rich in politics, and he worked with many candidates in campaigns throughout Davidson County and Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bates' illustrious family history in politics and public service inspired him to seek elected office in 1975; and

WHEREAS, he ran for and was elected to the Metropolitan Nashville Council, and for sixteen years he served his constituents with the utmost integrity, professionalism and dedication; and

WHEREAS, during his excellent tenure on the Council, Mr. Bates earned the admiration and respect of both his peers and the citizens of Davidson County for his keen attention to constituent problems and his ability to grasp and offer innovative leadership on the larger issues affecting all Nashvillians; and

WHEREAS, he advanced his inspired vision for Nashville's present and future as Chairman of the Public Works Committee for nine years; Chairman of the Budget and Finance Committee for three years; as a member of the Charter Revision Committee for fifteen years, the Schools Committee for sixteen years, the Parks and Recreation Committee for three years and the Executive Committee for twelve years; and as Chairman of Construction for the Criminal Justice Building, Ben West Building Rehabilitation and Parking Garage and the Nashville Convention Center; and

WHEREAS, he also rendered astute service to his fellow citizens and future generations as a valuable member of the following special committees: the Nashville Thermal Board as a member for fifteen years and President for one year; Stadium/Arena Committee; Education; County-Wide Fire and Ambulance Service; Nashville-Ashland City Railroad Authority; Nashville Port Authority; Water and Sewer Expansion; County Executive Committee for the State of Tennessee; 208 Policy Committee; Greater Nashville Regional Council; National Environmental and Energy; and National League of Cities; and

WHEREAS, in 1978, Mr. Bates was elected to the Baptist Hospital Board, and he is presently serving his ninth year as Chairman thereof; and

WHEREAS, a remarkable gentleman who realizes that citizenship entails many responsibilities as well as privileges, Mr. Bates is active in numerous civic and community organizations, including the Nashville Old Timers Baseball Association, Al Menah Shrine Temple Director's Staff, Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce Sports Committee and the Tennessee Retail Grocers Association; and

WHEREAS, he demonstrates his robust faith in the Lord through his membership in the First Baptist Church of Joelton; and

WHEREAS, Guy Bates is most appreciative of the love, companionship and support he receives from his wife of fifty-five years, the former Clara Groom; their five children, eight grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Guy E. Bates, Sr. has generously given of himself, his time and his considerable talents to serve the best interests of the good people of Metropolitan Nashville and Davidson County, and he should be appropriately honored; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That in appreciation of a career in public service that truly stands unparalleled and a life overflowing with purpose and commitment, that segment of State Route 65 (Whites Creek Pike) in Metropolitan Nashville Davidson County from its intersection with West Trinity Lane northward to the Davidson County-Robertson County line is hereby designated as the "Guy E. Bates, Sr. Highway".

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Department of Transportation is directed to erect suitable signs or to affix suitable markers so designating such segment of State Route 65 as the "Guy E. Bates, Sr. Highway".

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an enrolled copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Commissioner of Transportation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation to Mr. Bates, with the final three resolving clauses omitted from such copy.